

GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
9.2.05

Hello this is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

With the effects of Hurricane Katrina impacting hundreds of thousands of lives in the South, this Labor Day is not only a time to honor the every day contributions of working men and women, but especially the extraordinary efforts of relief agencies, volunteers, our National Guard and government personnel, working around the clock to coordinate a massive relief effort.

In Michigan, we're contributing to that effort, with our National Guard troops headed south to assist with relief and recovery.

And I want to ask Michigan families to contribute as well, by making a donation the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army or other disaster relief organizations.

Even though this crisis is 1,000 miles away, its effects are already impacting Michigan. Our oil supply, much of which is piped from the Gulf Region, has been disrupted.

And so to ensure adequate supplies in Michigan, we have declared an energy emergency. This will ensure that across the state, demand can be met and supply maintained, by temporarily lifting regulations and restrictions that could slow the transportation of fuel.

This Labor Day, my family and I will cross the Mackinac Bridge along with thousands of families from Downriver to Iron River. This is always an incredible parade of Michigan values – family, community, tradition – all coming together on a bridge that unites our two peninsulas.

And this weekend we will be united in our thoughts and prayers for all the victims, refugees and relief workers across the South.

Thank you for listening, and please have a safe Labor Day weekend.